

Alcohol & Other Drugs

The State Government is delivering on election commitments to develop a new residential drug rehabilitation facility in the Great Southern, and the Derby Wellness Centre. While these are welcome investments, current estimates indicate that services are meeting less than 40% of demand for supports, leaving people experiencing AOD challenges without access to life changing supports.

An increased focus on prevention and harm reduction to slow acute presentations as well as resourcing cross-government/sector AOD responsiveness to address intersectionality need to take place. We would like to see the WA Government commit to commissioning community services and develop policy and strategic intent in meaningful collaboration with the sector and directly with community. There is also a need for workforce planning and development, with a particular focus on regional, rural, and remote areas.

WA Labor 2025 Election Commitments

Election Commitment	New residential drug rehabilitation facility in the Great Southern
Status	<i>Funded (BP2, V1, P332)</i>
Investment	\$ 12.4 million over 4 years
Description	For the establishment and operation of an adult residential rehabilitation and low medical alcohol and other drug (AOD) withdrawal service in the Great Southern.
Implications	<i>This new facility will support people in the Great Southern to access rehabilitation services. Further consideration about the service model is needed, including ensuring the service meets the needs of Aboriginal people experiencing addiction in the Great Southern.</i>

Election Commitment	Derby Wellness Centre
Status	<i>Funded - part of investment in Kimberley Health Initiatives, totalling \$30 million (BP2, V1, P333, P339)</i>
Investment	\$8.8 million over 3 years The investment includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$2.8 million operational costs • \$6 million capital
Description	The Derby Wellness Centre is a community-led service that will co-locate key health services and support early intervention of mental health and alcohol and other drug issues.
Implications	<i>This initiative will provide access to multi-disciplinary services to improve wellbeing on Country. The service should focus on prevention, community development, and harm reduction.</i>

Election Commitment	Broome AOD withdrawal service
Status	<i>Unclear – part of investment in Kimberley Health Initiatives, totalling \$30 million (BP2, V1, P333, P339)</i>
Investment	\$2 million
Description	To plan for an AOD withdrawal service in Broome.
Implications	<i>AOD services are much needed in the community, this needs to be adequately funded.</i>

Other Significant Investments

Initiative	Broome Sobering Up Centre
Investment	\$829,000 (BP2, V1, P339 & BP3, P222)
Description	The reopening of a sobering up centre will provide a safe environment in which people intoxicated by alcohol can receive voluntary support.
Implications	<i>This has been an ongoing ask from the community since the closure of the previous centre in late 2021. More detail is needed.</i>